

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/767,047

Examiner

Anne M. Hines

Applicant(s)

KOTTER ET AL.

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 3/15/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 10-12, 14-25 and 32-34.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The amendment filed on March 15, 2007, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Claims 10-12, 14-25, and 32-34 are pending in the instant application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-12, 14-25, and 32-34 are allowed.

Regarding independent claim 10, the references of the Prior Art of record fail to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 10, and specifically comprising the limitation wherein an apparatus for making a ceramic arc tube comprises a pressure jacket with a pressure chamber and RF susceptor, the susceptor having an opening for receiving the capillary end of an arc tube, an RF induction coil external to the pressure jacket surrounding the RF susceptor, the RF induction coil connected to an RF power source and embedded in a cooling block; the pressure chamber is connected to a source of pressurized buffer gas and a vacuum source, the source of pressurized buffer gas is regulated by a valve and pressure controller, the controller having a pressure sensor for measuring the pressure chamber pressure; a holder for supporting the arc tube, the height of the support selected to cause an unsealed end of the arc tube to be positioned within the RF susceptor when the holder is sealed to the apparatus.

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Regarding claims 11-12, 14-20, and 22-25, claims 11-12, 14-20, and 22-25 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 10 because of their dependency status from claim 10.

Regarding independent claim 21, the references of the Prior Art of record fail to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 21, and specifically comprising the limitation wherein an apparatus for making a ceramic arc tube comprises a pressure jacket with a pressure chamber and RF susceptor, the susceptor having an opening for receiving the capillary end of an arc tube, an RF induction coil external to the pressure jacket surrounding the RF susceptor, the RF induction coil connected to an RF power source; the pressure chamber is connected to a source of pressurized buffer gas and a vacuum source, the source of pressurized buffer gas is regulated by a valve and pressure controller, the controller having a pressure sensor for measuring the pressure chamber pressure, the pressure jacket being releasably sealed to a base mounted to a manifold, the manifold having ports for connecting to the source of pressurized buffer gas and the vacuum source, the base and the manifold each having ports for connecting to the source of pressurized buffer gas and the vacuum source, the base and the manifold each having a bore therethrough to allow an arc tube to be inserted into the pressure chamber, the manifold being releasably sealed to a holder for supporting the arc tube, the height of the support selected to cause an unsealed end of the arc tube to be positioned within the RF susceptor when the holder is sealed to the apparatus.


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Regarding claims 32-34, claims 32-34 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 10 because of their dependency status from claim 10.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne M. Hines whose telephone number is (571) 272-2285. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Anne M Hines 
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2879


MARICELI SANTIAGO
PRIMARY EXAMINER